## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06

NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 AGRE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 IGA-02

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R 211044Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6459

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SNAR, CO

SUBJECT: MARIJUANA ERADICATION PROGRAM

REF: (A) BOGOTA 9373 (B) STATE 249590 (C) BOGOTA 11750

- 1. NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DANGEROUS DRUGS (NCDD), DR. LIGIA GALVIS DE ABELLO, HAS INFORMED MISSION OFFICERS THAT AT LAST MEETING OF NCDD, DECISION WAS REACHED THAT ABSOLUTELY NO FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR MARIJUANA ERADICTION PILOT PROJECT.
- 2. ACCORDING TO DE ABELLO NOT EVEN THE 260,000 PESOS THE NCDD HAD PREVIOUSLY SAID IT HAD FOR THE PURCHASE OF CHEMICALS ARE STILL AVAILABLE (REF A). SHE WAS NOT EXPLICIT AS TO WHAT HAD HAPPENED, BUT CITED GENERALLY THE NCDD'S LACK OF FUNDS, WITH NO GOVERNMENTAL BUDGET AND FORCED TO RELY ON THE INCOME FROM FINES (NOT PAID) OR AUCTIONING OF CONFISCATED PROPERTY, PARTICULARLY VEHICLES (EITHER KEPT BY ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES FOR THEIR OWN USE OR RETURNED TO OWNERS ON LEGAL GROUNDS).
- 3. IT WAS APPARENT DE ABELLO IS PERSONALLY OPPOSED TO ERADICATION PROGRAM SO IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER ARGUMENTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHE RAISED WERE PART OF NCDD DICISION OR HER PERSONAL OPINIONS. SHE COMMENTED ON THE EXPENSE OF THE CHEMICALS AND THE FUTILITY OF LAUNCHING A PILOT PROJECT FOR A LIMITED AREA WITH NO PROSPECT OF FUNDS FOR A FULL SCALE PROGRAM THAT WOULD HAVE AN IMPACT. SHE ALSO MADE THE POINT THAT THE MARIJUANA PRODUCING AREAS WERE THE POORER AND LESS DEVELOPED AREAS OF THE COUNTRY SO THAT IF THE PEOPLE WERE

DEPRIVED OF MARIJUANA INCOME, THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPENSATING PROGRAMS.

4. DE ABELLO'S REMARKS ONLY FORMALIZED SOMEWHAT MESSAGE THAT WAS ALREADY MADE CLEAR BY COMPLETE ABSENCE OF GOC ACTIVITY OR INTEREST IN ERADICATION PROGRAM FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. PILOT PROJECT AS APPROVED BY DEPARTMENT (REF B) AND LARGER PROJECT IN NCAP (REF C) ARE APPARENTLY DEAD FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: MARIJUANA, DRUG CONTROL, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 21 feb 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BOGOTA01621
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A **Expiration:** 

Film Number: D780078-0597 Format: TEL From: BOGOTA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780234/aaaabcsn.tel

Line Count: 72 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 160d61d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BOGOTA 9373, 78 STATE 249590, 78 BOGOTA 11750

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 12 jul 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3540899 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MARIJUANA ERADICATION PROGRAM

TAGS: SNAR, CO To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/160d61d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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